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FOREIGN AND INSULAR.

CHINA.

Reports from Hongkong—Inspection of vessels—Smallpox—Vessel fumigated to kill rats.

Passed Assistant Surgeon McMullen reports, December 2 and 10, as follows:

Week ended November 28, 1903: 12 vessels, with 951 crew and 650 passengers (449 steerage and 201 cabin), were inspected and granted bills of health; 720 crew and 335 steerage passengers were bathed and their baggage was disinfected—1,002 pieces. One vessel was fumigated with sulphur to kill rats. There were 3 rejections from all causes and 9 immigrants recommended for rejection because of loathsome or dangerous contagious disease. One case each of enteric fever (European) and smallpox (Chinese) were the only communicable diseases reported in the colony for the week.

Inspection of vessels—Plague.

Week ended December 5, 1903: 15 vessels, with 1,273 crew and 638 passengers (170 cabin and 468 steerage), were inspected and granted bills of health; 796 crew and 330 steerage were bathed and their baggage was disinfected—1,136 pieces. Two vessels for Manila via Amoy were instructed to call at Mariveles for disinfection. There were 21 aliens (Chinese) recommended for rejection because of loathsome or dangerous contagious disease.

The health of the colony is now good, and 1 fatal case of plague (Chinese) was the only communicable disease reported—a total of 1,422 cases since January 1.

Immigrants recommended for rejection.

Twenty-one immigrants per steamship *Siberia* for Honolulu and San Francisco were recommended, November 30, for rejection.

Fourteen immigrants per steamship *Coptic* for San Francisco recommended, December 8, for rejection.

Report from Shanghai—Inspection of vessels—Smallpox.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Ransom reports, December 8, 1903, as follows: During the week ended December 5, 1903, 3 vessels, 215 crew, 43 cabin and 132 steerage passengers were inspected, and the effects of 1 steerage passenger were disinfected. There were also 9 immigration inspections made, with no rejections. One vessel was disinfected with bichloride solution 1:500, upon the request of the chief quarantine officer of the Philippine Islands.

One case of eruption, in the person of a child on the steamship *Shimano Maru*, bound to Port Townsend via Kobe and Yokohama, was called to the attention of the United States sanitary inspector at Kobe, with request that he note on the bill of health his findings, as the case was not sufficiently developed to make a diagnosis here, and it was not thought expedient to hold the vessel at this port two or three days in order to do so. The Japanese surgeon on board was given instructions to hold the case in strict isolation pending inspection at Kobe.

Manifests were viscéed during the week for 16,019 pieces of freight.

The following report of communicable diseases was made by the municipal health officer: Smallpox, 3 deaths; enteric fever, 4 cases; diphtheria, 1 case. The total mortality was 3 foreigners and 120 natives.

There were no quarantinable diseases reported from any of the out-ports. Niuchwang is now frozen in and no further reports are being received from there, hence the plague situation at that point is unknown.

CUBA.

Report from Cienfuegos—Scarlet fever and diphtheria.

Acting Assistant Surgeon McMahon reports, December 30, as follows: During the week ended December 26, 1903, bills of health were issued to two vessels going to ports in the United States, both in good sanitary condition and no sickness on board.

There are a few cases of scarlet fever and diphtheria reported in the city, but no deaths from these diseases.

Proper precautions are being taken by the local authorities to prevent the spread of these diseases.

The mortuary report for this week has not been received.

Report from Habana.

Assistant Surgeon Trotter reports, December 26, as follows: Week ended December 26, 1903:

Vessels inspected and bills of health issued.....	19
Crews of outgoing vessels inspected.....	714
Passengers of outgoing vessels inspected.....	282
Pieces of freight inspected.....	172

Mortuary report of Habana for the week ended December 26, 1903.

Disease.	Number of deaths.	Disease.	Number of deaths.
Tuberculosis.....	17	Meningitis.....	4
Pneumonia.....	8	Scarlet fever.....	2
Bronchitis.....	2	Measles.....	1
Broncho-pneumonia.....	2	Septicæmia.....	1
Enteritis.....	4	Cancer.....	3

Total deaths from all causes, 109.

Report from Matanzas—Diphtheria—Danger to health from overflow of river averted.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Nuñez reports, January 5, as follows: Week ended January 2, 1904: Two bills of health were issued to vessels bound for ports in the United States.